European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education





Interoperability of European databases and use of DEQAR for recognition purposes

Aleksandra Zhivkovikj, Policy and Project officer, EQAR Seminar on digital solutions for the recognition agenda, Rome, Italy, 24th April 2024





EQAR's Mission and Role

- EHEA's official register of quality assurance agencies that comply with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA (ESG): 56 agencies
- Non-profit and independent
- Acting in the public interest







Register Committee

Independent QA experts, nominated by stakeholders

Decisions on registration of agencies

DEQAR: "quality at your fingertips"

eqar////

https://www.degar.eu

Created in 2018

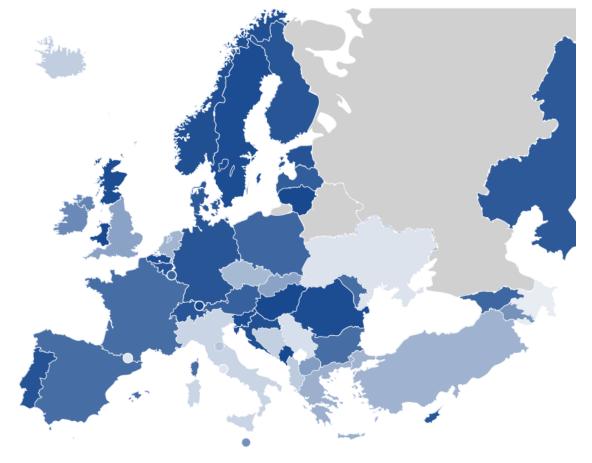


- Enhance trust and transparency in the EHEA and responds to needs of different stakeholders
- Easy access to external quality assurance (QA) reports (i.e. accreditations and evaluations) and decisions by EQAR-registered agencies (ONLY higher education)
- Accreditations and evaluations uploaded by EQAR registered QA agencies

DEQAR Key Figures



	April 2024
Reports	99 289
HE Institutions (at least 1 report)	4018
Higher Education Systems (≥ 50% of HEIs)	24
Agencies	56



Overview of the current landscape of micro credentials and other providers



- The number of micro credentials, measured by number of courses at 6 main learning platforms, rose for more than 200% between 2018 and 2022 (OECD, 2023)
- Cedefop (2023) shows that variety of actors such as public organisations, companies and employment services, offer programmes at higher education level
- Employers surveyed (N=384) had a stronger preference for micro credentials offered by accredited providers (62%) and to the ones being offered as part of the national formal offer of education and training (48%) (Cedefop, 2023)
- No comprehensive mapping on non traditional providers of HE programmes and micro credentials across the EHEA yet

Expansion of information in DEQAR



- 1. Accreditations and evaluations of providers with:
- a) Full degree awarding powers (i.e. HEIs) recognised by at least one national authority
- b) No full degree awarding powers, but offer programmes at higher education level (formal organisational status recognised by at least one national authority)
- 2. Accreditations and evaluations of programmes:
- a) Leading to a full (nationally) recognised degree
- b) Not leading to full (nationally) recognised degree, but at higher education level (micro credentials and others)

Definition of a micro credential

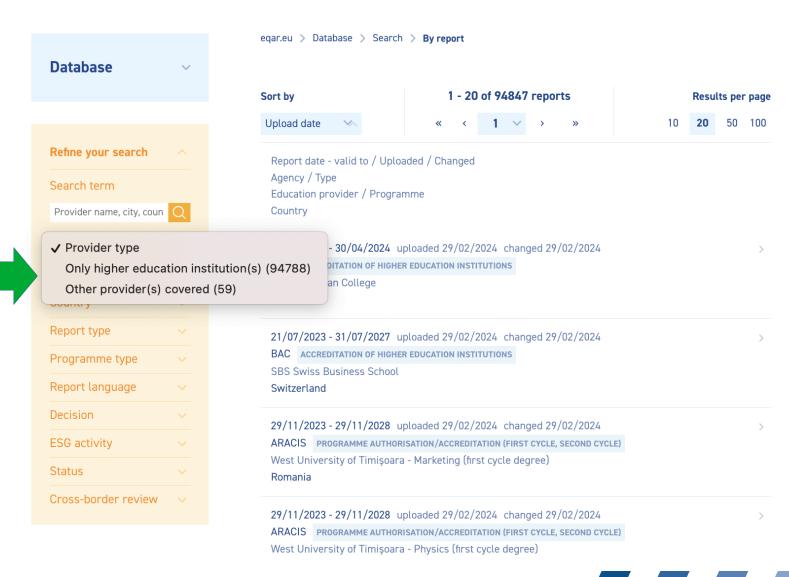


A study provision:

- a) Consisted by a workload expressed in ECTS in the range of 1 and 59 ECTS credits
- b) Related to EQF/ISCED level (5), 6, 7 or 8 OR QF EHEA level short, first, second, third cycle
- c) Does not lead to a full (recognised) degree

Visual distinction





Symbols



Higher education institution





RWTH Aachen

Aachen (Germany)

Alternative provider





Information on other providers



Database

Search

By provider

By report

Get data

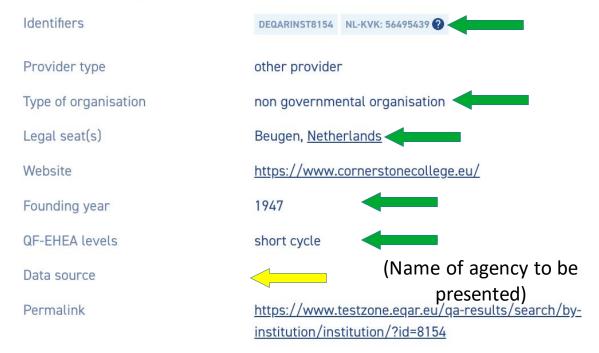
Terms and Conditions

Frequent questions

egar.eu > Database > Search > By provider > Cornerstone Centre for Intercultural Studies

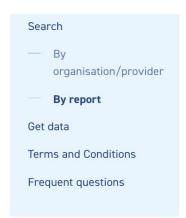
Cornerstone Centre for Intercultural Studies

Basic information



Certification of other providers





Limited Liability Partnership "Training and Clinical Center "Dentistry"

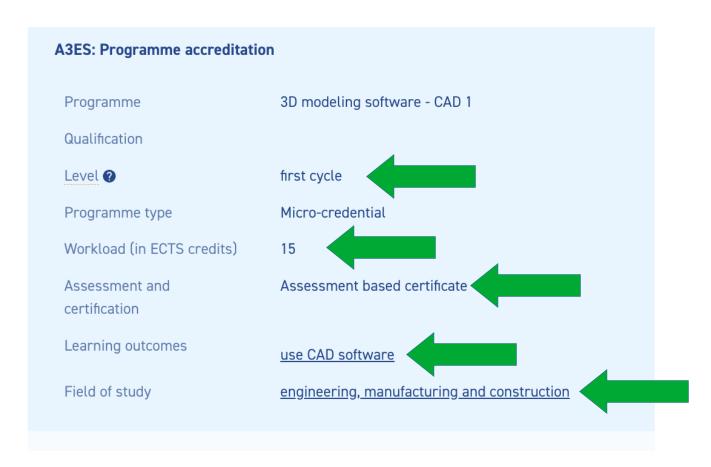
✓ IAAR: Institutional Adducation	ccreditation of the Organisation of Continuing
DEQAR Report ID 2	93960
Agency	Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR)
Туре	Institutional Accreditation of the Organisation of Continuing Education
Status ?	voluntary
Formal decision 2	positive
Date	30/06/2023
Valid until	29/06/2028
Report and decision	Decision (Russian)
	Review Report (Russian)
Permalink	https://www.testzone.eqar.eu/qa- results/search/by-report/report/?id=93960
Institution page	<u>Limited Liability Partnership "Training and Clinical</u> <u>Center "Dentistry"</u>
External link	View record on agency's website

Certification of a micro credential



3D modeling software - CAD 1

Educational Centre "Zerde" Limited Liability Partnership



Main observations process

1. The micro credentials usually bore up to **30 ECTS**.

But there are other various combinations between the no. of ECTS – Full degree – Recognised degree



Main observations



- 2. Most of the **other providers** were established as **non governmental organisations**, some as private companies. Rarely public organisations or public-private partnerships
- 3. **Micro credentials** can be **tied to a QF level** (reference entry qualification)
- 4. The use of terminology "diploma", "bachelor", "master" is not always protected via national legislation (hence providers can utilise it for own purposes)

Concept of interoperability



Increasing Capability for Interoperation

 Definition: The ability of computer systems or software to exchange and make use of information.

Different levels of connectivity

Level 6 Conceptual Interoperability Level 5 Dynamic Interoperability Modeling / Abstraction Level 4 Pragmatic Interoperability Level 3 Semantic Interoperability Simulation / Level 2 Implementation Syntactic Interoperability Level 1 Technical Interoperability Level 0 No Interoperability

■ EU Higher Education Interop

No Interoper

(aimed at EU — As)

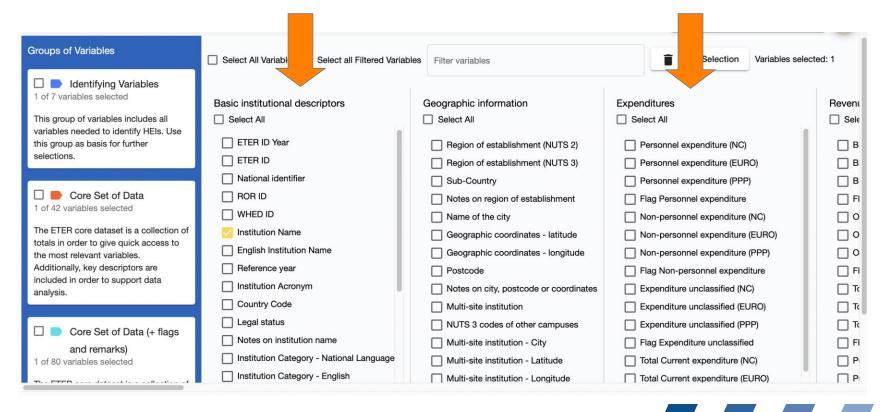
Link to the Manifesto for EHEI Framework

Interoperability of DEQAR

Data intake – European Tertiary Education Register (ETER/OrgReg)



- Main list of institutions comes from ETER
- Extract of particular set of information
- Automatically updated every 24h



Interoperability of DEQAR

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Data intake – EC's European skills, competences and occupations (ESCO) framework API

Learning outcomes

drawing

tend drawing kiln - http://data.europa.eu/esco/skcold drawing processes - http://data.europa.eu/etechnical drawings - http://data.europa.eu/esco/tend bar drawing machine - http://data.europa.eccreate AutoCAD drawings - http://data.europa.eccmetal drawing processes - http://data.europa.eccmetal drawing processes - http://data.europa.eccmetal.ec

Field of study (ISCED-F)



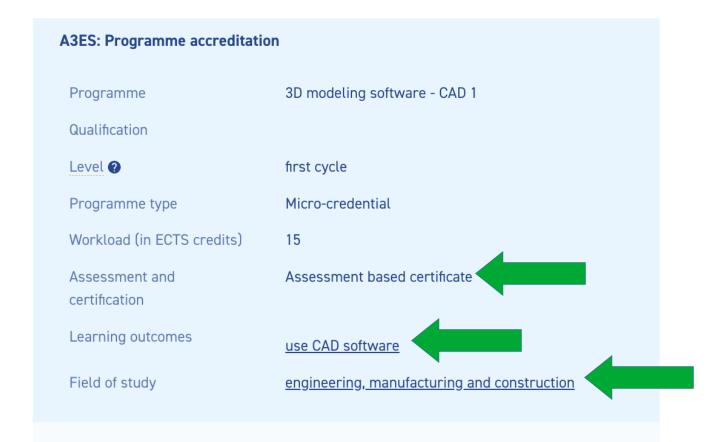
agriculture - http://data.europa.eu/esco/isced-f/081
agriculture not elsewhere classified - http://data.euro
agriculture not further defined - http://data.europa.eu
agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary - http://c
agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not else
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Certificate of a micro-credential



3D modeling software - CAD 1

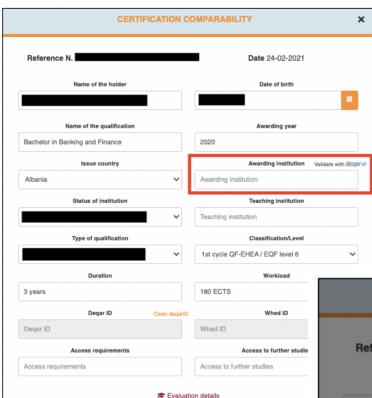
Educational Centre "Zerde" Limited Liability Partnership



Interoperability of DEQAR

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Data export - ENIC NARICs workflows



Preview Certificate PDF

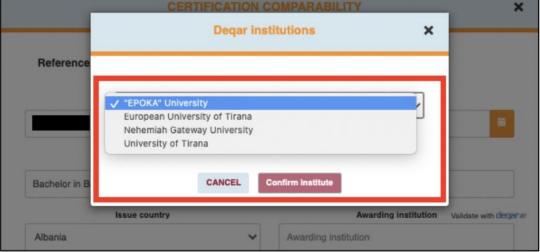
CONFIRM

Save draft

CANCEL

CIMEA DiploMe

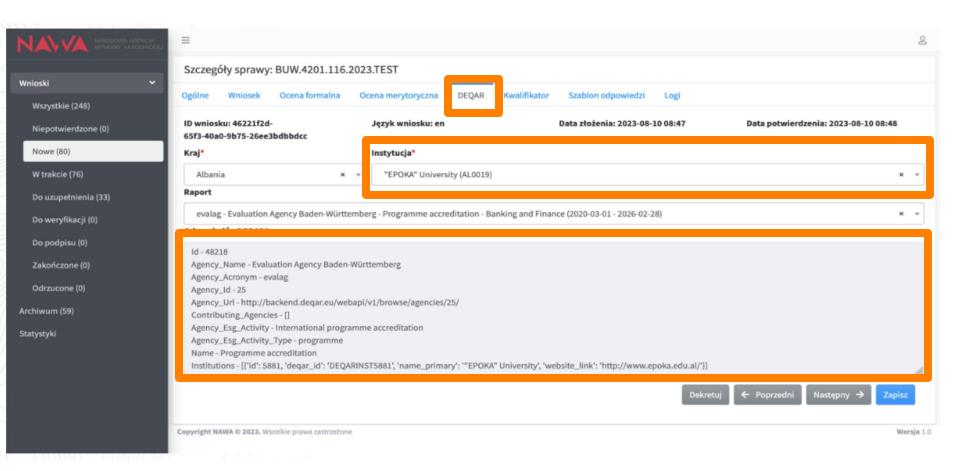
- Extraction of data on accredited HEIs
- Include logo on statements of comparability if the HEI is in DEQAR



NAWA SYRENA system

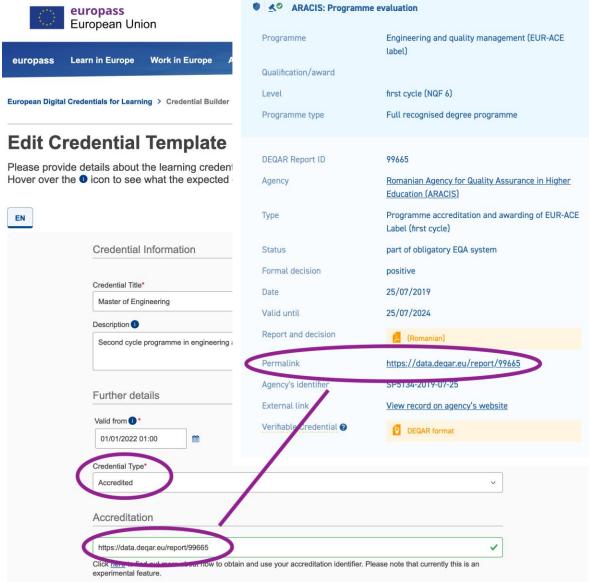


Use of data on accreditations of HEIs



Export of DEQAR data - European Digital Credentials for Learning





Key takeaways



- 1. Think of the full workflow plan all the steps and where the data intake (i.e. where it makes the most sense)
- 2. Think numbers (identifiers, codes etc.)
- 3. Think API

4. Be open to different data standards/approaches and be creative in finding links to (the other) data models



Thank you

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